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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention relates to epilepsy. More particularly, the present invention relates to idiopathic generalized epilepsy (IGE), and to the identification of three genes mapping to chromosomes 1 and 2, which show mutations in patients with epilepsy. The invention further relates to nucleic acid sequences and protein sequences, and to the use thereof to assist in diagnosis, prognosis of the epilepsy, to predict an epileptic individual's response to medication, and to identify agents which modulate the function of the SCN1A. The invention also provides screening assays using SCN1A, SCN2A, and/or SCN3A, which can identify compounds which have therapeutic potential for epilepsy and related neurological disorders.

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